

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated June 15, 2006. Claims 1, 2, 4, 7, 8, 21, 22, 29, 31-41, 44-46, 48, and 49 remain pending in this application, of which Claims 1, 7, 21 and 29 are in independent form. Claims 1, 7, 21, and 29 have been amended to define still more clearly what Applicants regard as their invention; no change in scope of these claims is either intended or believed to be effected. Claims 11, 13, and 47 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter, and will not be mentioned further. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1, 2, 4, 7, 8, 11, 13, 21, 22, 29, 31-41 and 44-49 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious from U.S. Patent 6,460,030 B1 (Ludtke '030) in view of U.S. Patent 6,260,063 B1 (Ludtke '063), and further in view of U.S. Patent 5,261,044 (Dev et al.).

First, cancellation of Claims 11, 13, and 47 renders the rejections of those claims moot.

The general nature of the invention has been discussed in previous papers and it is not deemed necessary to repeat that discussion here.

Independent Claim 1 is directed to a network system comprising a server, a client, and a device. The server comprises (1) a first storage unit, adapted to store position information indicating a geographical location in which the device is installed and a network address of the device, and (2) a first transmission unit, adapted to transmit the position information and the network address to the client via a network. The device comprises (1) a second storage unit, adapted to store icon data indicating an icon for visually representing the device, and (2) a control unit, adapted to transmit the icon data to the client via the

network. The client comprises (1) a first reception unit, adapted to receive the position information and the network address transmitted by the first transmission unit via the network, (2) a second transmission unit, adapted to transmit a request to the device based on the network address so as to acquire the icon data stored in the second storage unit, (3) a second reception unit, adapted to receive the icon data, and (4) a display unit, adapted to display the geographical location in which the device is installed, indicated by the position information received by the first reception unit, and to display the icon indicated by the icon data, received by the second reception unit.

Among other notable features of Claim 1 are that (1) a client receives position information and the network address of a device from the server, and (2) the client transmits a request to the device for acquiring icon data stored in the device based on the received network address.

More specifically, in the system of Claim 1, the client receives the position information, which indicates a “geographical location in which said device is installed”, and the “network address of said device”, from the server. The client transmits to the device the request for acquiring the icon data based on the “network address of said device”, and thereafter receives the icon data from the device.

Ludtke ‘030, as understood by Applicants, relates to searching stored data in a network of electronic devices connected by a network bus. In Ludtke ‘030, a controller receives an identifier of the stored data from a proxy, and also receives the stored data from the device. However, in Ludtke ‘030, the controller does not receive a “network address of said device” from the proxy.

In the system of Claim 1, the client transmits the request for acquiring the icon data to the device based on the “network address of said device” received by the server. The “network address of said device” is stored information identifying the device’s network address, i.e., information which is used for accessing the device. For example, this information is used by the client to transmit the data, e.g., the request, to the device.

However, in Ludtke ‘030, the controller does not transmit any request to the device. Instead, the controller transmits the identifier to the proxy. As a result, the proxy directs the device to transmit the stored data to the controller, and, in this way, the controller receives the stored data from the device. Thus, the controller in Ludtke ‘030 receives the stored data without transmitting any data to the device, and, as such, the controller is not in need of a network address of the device.

Accordingly, Ludtke ‘030 does not teach or suggest that a client receives a network address of the device from a server, as recited in Claim 1. Moreover, Ludtke ‘030 does not teach or suggest that a client transmits a request to a device for acquiring icon data stored in the device based on a network address received from the server, as recited in Claim 1. In particular, Applicants submit that the portion of Ludtke ‘030 which was cited in the Office Action, i.e. Fig. 5D and column 12, lines 1-47 of that patent, does not teach or suggest “a second transmission unit, adapted to transmit a request to said device based on the network address received by said first reception unit so as to acquire the icon data stored in said second storage unit from said device via said network”, as recited in Claim 1.

Ludtke ‘063, as understood by Applicants, relates to representing devices and available information within a network of devices using object lists and object entries. Dev et al., as understood by Applicants, relates to a network management system using

multifunction icons for information display. Nothing has been found in Ludtke '063 or Dev et al. that would supply what is missing from Ludtke '030.

Applicants have found nothing in Ludtke '030, Ludtke '063, or Dev et al., taken separately or in any permissible combination (if any) that would teach or suggest that (1) a client receives position information, indicating a geographical location in which a device is installed, and a network address of the device, from a server, and (2) the client transmits a request to the device for acquiring icon data stored in the device based on the network address received from the server, as recited in Claim 1.

Accordingly, Claim 1 is deemed allowable over Ludtke '030, Ludtke '063, and Dev et al., taken separately or in any permissible combination (if any), for at least the reasons advanced above.

Independent Claims 7, 21, and 29 recite features which are similar in many relevant respects to those discussed above with respect to Claim 1 and therefore are also believed to be patentable over Ludtke '030, Ludtke '063, and Dev et al. for at least the reasons discussed above.

A review of the other art of record has failed to reveal anything which, in Applicants' opinion, would remedy the deficiencies of the art discussed above, as references against the independent claims herein. Those claims are therefore believed patentable over the art of record.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one or another of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of

the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

This Amendment After Final Action is believed clearly to place this application in condition for allowance and, therefore, its entry is believed proper under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116. Accordingly, entry of this Amendment After Final Action, as an earnest effort to advance prosecution and reduce the number of issues, is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe that issues remain outstanding, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact Applicants' undersigned attorney in an effort to resolve such issues and advance the case to issue.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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